

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~stone-sawing~~ sawing a stone in a stone-sawing machine, without generating high-pitched noise caused by a saw blade rubbing against the stone in the stone-sawing machine, the method comprising:

providing grit suspended in sludge, the grit having an average grit size based on a sawing difficulty level of the stone, and a grit concentration in the sludge of at least 210 grams of grit between the maximum size and 40% of the said maximum size;

~~reducing the average size of the grit; and~~

~~increasing the grit concentration in the sludge,~~

~~wherein a greatest advance is possible; and~~

wherein the sound a noise level of the saw blade cutting through the stone is maintained at less than 80db at a distance of 1.5m from the a noise measuring apparatus and thereby, the noise caused by a strip rubbing against the stone is low in pitch, and free from a high-pitched noise.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of stone-sawing according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ providing grit suspended in the sludge comprises:

providing grit with a maximum size of 500 µm for sawing a stone ~~the grit used to saw the stones~~ having a sawing difficulty level of 3 is 600 µm; 4 and 5[[,]] is 500 µm; and

providing grit with a maximum size of 700 µm for sawing a stone ~~for stones~~ having a sawing difficulty level of 1 and 2, ~~the maximum size is 700 µm.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The method of stone-sawing according to claim 2 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein providing grit suspended in the sludge comprises:

providing grit with ~~grit content in the sludge that enters the machine, of~~ a size between ~~the~~ said maximum size and 40% of ~~the~~ said maximum size, is higher than 210g per litre.

4. (Canceled)